

# SHERBORNE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



1970

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
AND  
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Medical Officer of Health: ESTHER JACKSON, M.B. , CH.B. , D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector: F.E. RAEBURN, M.A.P.H.I.

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SHERBORNE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT  
Telephone: Sherborne 3225

THE MANOR HOUSE  
NEWLAND  
SHERBORNE, Dorset.

Telephone number of  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
Sturminster Newton 651

HEALTH COMMITTEE 1970

Chairman: A. E. H. Sweet, Esq.

The Chairman of the Council

The Vice-Chairman

Mrs. C. R. Rolls  
Mr. E. H. King  
Mr. A. C. M. Knight  
Mr. A. E. Lugg  
Mr. J. P. Riley

STAFF - PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH (part time)	-	Esther Jackson, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Clerk	-	Mrs. V. Donovan (to 31st July 1970) Mrs. Wharton (1st September to 9th October 1970) Mrs. A. Smith (26th October 1970)
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR	-	F. E. Raeburn, M.A.P.H.I.
ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR	-	E. Wood, M.A.P.H.I.



SHERBORNE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1970

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in acres	1,650
Registrar General's Estimated Mid-Year Population	8,580
Number of dwellings	2,662
Rateable value (at 1st April 1970)	£330,350
Product of penny rate	£3,053

VITAL STATISTICS

<u>BIRTHS</u> registered	1970		Total	1969 Total
	Male	Female		
Live Births Total	48	56	104	104
Legitimate	46	49	95	98
Illegitimate	2	7	9	6
Still Births Total	0	0	0	1

  

DEATHS Registered	1970		Total	1969 Total
	Male	Female		
Total	58	47	105	117
Maternal deaths	0	0	0	0
Deaths of infants under				
1 year - Total	1	1	2	1
Legitimate	1	0	1	1
Illegitimate	0	1	1	0
Under 4 weeks of age: Total	1	1	2	0
Under 1 week of age : Total	0	1	1	0

The succeeding table of figures shows the birth rates etc. for the Sherborne Urban District and the rates for England and Wales for comparison.

	Sherborne U.D.	1969	England & Wales	1969
Live birth rate per 1,000 est. population	12.1	12.7	16.0	16.3
Area comparability factor .....	1.42	1.42	1.0	1.0
Local adjusted rate .....	17.2	18.0	16.0	16.3
Illegitimate live births as percentage of all live births .....	9	6	8	8
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths .....	-	10	13.0	13
Infant Mortality Rate per 1000 live births.....	19	10	18.0	18
I.M.R. of legitimate infants .....	11	10	17	17
I.M.R. of illegitimate infants .....	111	0	26	25
Neonatal mortality rate (Deaths under 4 wks per 1000 live born).....	19	0	12	12
Early neonatal mortality rate (Deaths under 1 wk per 1000 live born) .....	10	0	11	10
Perinatal mortality rate (still births and deaths under 1 wk per 1000 total live and still births).....	10	0	23	23
Deaths per 1,000 population.....	12.2	11.3	11.7	11.9
Area comparability factor .....	0.77	0.91	1.0	1.0
Local adjusted death rate .....	9.4	13.0	11.7	11.9

In calculating Birth and Death Rates area comparability factors are issued by the Registrar General to "correct" marked variations from average in the age and sex structure of the local population and to take into account any unusually high or low mortality due to the presence of residential institutions etc. The local crude rate multiplied by the area comparability factor produces a rate comparable with rates in other parts of the country

## CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR

	1970			Total	Total
	Male	Female	Total	1969	1968
Tuberculosis - all forms	0	0	0	0	
Other infective illnesses	0	0	0	1	
Malignant neoplasm					
Lung and bronchus	5	1	6	1	2
Breast	0	1	1	2)	
Uterus	-	0	0	0)	
Prostate	2	-	2	0)	11
Stomach and intestines	1	1	2	5)	
Leukaemia	0	0	0	1)	
Other sites	3	6	9	8)	
Diabetes mellitus	0	0	0	0	
Other endocrine etc. diseases	0	1	1	1	
Other diseases of nervous system etc.	2	2	4	6	
Ischaemic heart disease	12	4	16	27	18
Cerebrovascular disease	7	8	15	21)	
Other heart & circulatory system diseases	11	12	23	16)	22
Influenza	5	0	5	0	2
Pneumonia	2	4	6	9	3
Bronchitis and emphysema	1	1	2	0	
Other diseases of respiratory system	0	0	0	0	
Ulcer and diseases of digestive system	2	0	2	4	
Other diseases of liver and intestines	0	1	1	3	
Diseases of kidney and genito-uninary system	2	0	2	0	
Congenital anomalies & other causes of perinatal mortality	2	1	3	3	
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	0	1	1	5	
Motor vehicle accidents	0	1	1	1	1
All other accidents	1	2	3	1	0
Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	0	0	0	2	
	58	47	105	117	

Figures for previous years are included for comparison. It is apparent that the list of numbers dying in the population of this area has little meaning unless compared with figures for the whole country: any seeming differences in trends and figures are artifacts due to the relatively small numbers of deaths in the area.

## CONTROL OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

### A. Diseases against which immunisation is offered.

#### TUBERCULOSIS

B.C.G. vaccination is offered to those children during their second or third year at secondary school, who, on testing, are found to lack immunity. B.C.G. vaccination is also offered by the hospital service to younger children who are known to have been in contact with tuberculosis. No case of tuberculosis was notified during the year.

#### DIPHTHERIA

Again no notification was received and it is many years since a case was notified in the district. Immunisation of young children and subsequent booster doses is undoubtedly responsible for this satisfactory freedom from infection.





## HEAD LICE

Lice and nits have once again ceased to be a rarity among school children. This is probably a reflection of the fashion for longer, loose hair among women and men. Most of the infestations reported to the Health Authority were among school children; older patients usually go direct to their general medical practitioner for treatment.

## PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY SERVICE

The Public Health Laboratory Service has continued to give excellent service. The Dorchester Laboratory, under the direction of Dr. G. H. Tee has dealt with much of the work from this area.

Brucellosis in humans is not a notifiable disease but public interest in the scheme for eradication of brucellosis from dairy cattle has increased awareness of the possibility of brucellosis infection in humans. Dr. Tee reports that the Public Health Laboratory examined an increased number of specimens from humans. However, the percentage of sera found positive has remained remarkably constant at about 6% over the past three years.

## CARE OF THE ELDERLY

The housing provided by the Council for elderly people is much sought after. Without the grouped dwellings with wardens many elderly people would be unable to continue to live independently and there would be much greater pressure on the County Council's old people's homes.

## NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT 1951

I am happy to be able to report that it has not been necessary to take any formal action under this Act by which the Magistrates can order the removal of an elderly person living in unsatisfactory circumstances and unable to care for himself but unwilling to be admitted to hospital when a bed is available.

## COUNTY COUNCIL SERVICES

The Home Help Service administered by the County Health Department has continued to support the elderly and has given equally valuable support to other families when illness has prevented the homemaker from carrying out her normal work.

## VOLUNTARY SERVICES.

Acknowledgement must again be made to the excellent work carried out in the town by voluntary bodies; the two services detailed below are examples of voluntary work for old people.

The County Council clinic building in Horsecastles is used for the chiropody clinic organised by the B.R.C.S. each Friday and on the fourth Tuesday of the month.

The W.R.V.S. organises a meals-on-wheels service on two days each week. During the year 83 old people benefitted from this service compared with 71 in 1969. Not only are the meals appreciated by the old people but also the visits of the helpers who take round the meals.

# ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

## NATURE OF THE DISTRICT

Sherborne is a trading centre of an agricultural area, as well as being a tourist and educational centre. Principal industries include light engineering, manufacture of industrial glass fabrics, glove making, dairies and mineral water manufacturing.

## WATER SUPPLY

The Wessex Water Board is responsible for the public water supplies in the district.

All the houses in the town have a piped mains water supply and no house is dependent upon a stand pipe supply.

In addition to the samples for bacteriological examination taken by the Board, one hundred and four samples were submitted for examination by your public health staff.

Five firms in the town have a private supply which is used to supplement the public water supply. These firms are Hunts dairies, J. & M. Parsons, Marglass, Seymours and Unigate dairy. There are supplies from boreholes at Hyle Farm and the school. 27 samples for bacteriological examination were taken by your public health staff and all the results were satisfactory.

## DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The Consulting engineers continued their measurements of flow and analyses of effluents and consultations with the River Board and submitted preliminary suggestions and estimates for alterations and extensions to the sewage works.

## PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

There are Public Conveniences at 4 sites in the town:

Coldharbour  
Digby Road  
The car park at Market Yard  
" " " " Culverhayes

There is a cold water supply for handwashing at all four sites with hot water available also throughout at Market Yard and in the gentlemen's conveniences only in Digby Road and Coldharbour.

## OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

No. of inspectors appointed under the Act	2
Estimated No. of Premises subject to registration	107
No. of Premises registered	107
No. of Premises Inspected	42
No. of inspections carried out	73

## SANITATION OF SCHOOLS (INCLUDING SCHOOL CANTEEN HYGIENE)

All school boarding house kitchens and school canteens were inspected. The general standard was satisfactory, improvements having been effected in several cases.



## CLEAN AIR ACT 1956

Regular observations were made at all sites. Informal action was taken in three cases to abate oil fume nuisance,

## RADIOACTIVE SUBSTANCES ACT.

Three premises are registered under the Act.

## SWIMMING BATHS

There are two private swimming baths to which the public have access at some time of the year. Regular sampling was carried out at these baths and at other private baths (mostly at schools) in the Urban District. Advice was given on chlorination etc. in several cases.

## THE CONTROL OF MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

There is one licensed caravan site in the Urban District. The site has 66 residential sites and a small area for caravans in transit.

Eight inspections were carried out during the year.

## PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT 1949

Rodent control work in the Urban District and five neighbouring districts (Beaminster, Sherborne, Sturminster and Shaftesbury Rural Districts and Shaftesbury Borough) is administered by the Sherborne Urban District.

During the year 227 treatments were carried out in the Urban District, a total of 583 visits being made.

## VERMINOUS PREMISES

Advice was given in several cases of cockroach and clusterfly infestation.

## PET ANIMALS ACT 1951

Number of premises licenced	1
" " inspections made	4

## ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT

No premise in the district is registered under the Act.

Under the Act, with certain limited exceptions, any person who carries on a business of providing accommodation for other people's animals, even in a private house, must be registered under this Act by the District Council.

## NOISE ABATEMENT ACT

The number of complaints alleging noise nuisance is increasing.

# FACTORIES ACT 1961

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written Occupiers notices prosecuted (4)	(5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	2	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	56	46	-	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	-	-	-	-
Total	57	48	-	-

2. Cases in which defects were found

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To HM Inspector (4)	By HM Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-			
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-			
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-			
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-			
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-			
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-			
(b) Unsuitable or defective	5	3			
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-			
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-			
Total	5	3			

Number of out-workers

50



## HOUSING

Total number of houses in the district 2661

### Inspection of dwelling houses during the year:

Total No. of dwelling houses inspected during the year	49
No. of inspections made	148
No. of informal notices served	1
No. of informal notices complied with	1
No. of Statutory Notices served	None
No. of Statutory Notices complied with	-
No. of houses reported under Section 16 of the Housing Act 1958	None
No. of houses included in Clearance Area during the year	None

### Housing Act 1964. Section 13.

Action taken under this Act	Nil
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### Overcrowding

No. of cases of statutory overcrowding found and reported to the Local Authority	Nil
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### Houses Let In Lodgings

No. of houses known to be let in lodgings	Four
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### Housing Repairs and Rent Act 1954

No. of applications received for certificates of disrepair	None
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### Improvement Grants

No. of applications received during the year:	15
	(a) <u>Standard</u> (b) <u>Discretionary</u>
No. granted	12 2
No. pending	- -
One Discretionary Grant application was refused	

### New Houses

No. of new dwellings provided by private enterprise during the year	14
No. of new dwellings provided by the Local Authority during the year	30

### Re-housing

Total No. of families housed during the year by the Local Authority	63
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### Housing Applications

No. of persons who are applicants for a Council House at the end of the year:-

(a) resident within the district	147
(b) resident without the district	91

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES

#### 1. Milk

No. of 'dairies' in the district subject to registration 2

No. of 'distributors' subject to registration 2

#### Samples

Regular sampling of bottled milk is undertaken by your Public Health Inspectors and by Dorset County Council and the County Chief Public Health Inspector has supplied the following information:

No. of samples taken by Sherborne	46
by County	241
Total	287
No. satisfactory	287

Samples of raw milk were also examined for *Brucella abortus* and no positive sample was found.

#### 2. Other Food Premises

##### (a) Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960

Details of food premises subject to the above, grouped in categories of trade carried on in them and including the following information for each category separately:-

Trade	No. of Premises	No. of Premises fitted to comply with Reg. 16	No. of Premises to which Reg. 19 applies	No. of Premises fitted to comply with Reg. 19
Hotels	11	11	11	11
Cafes	5	5	5	5
Public Houses	10	10	10	10
Clubs	4	4	4	4
Church Halls	5	2	5	5
Canteens - Schools	10	10	10	10
Confectioners	4	4	4	4
Meat and Fish	8	8	8	8
Grocers	5	5	5	5
Mixed Stores	11	11	11	11
Boarding Schools	21	21	21	21
Food Factories	1	1	1	1
Others	1	1	1	1
Residential Institutions	4	4	4	4
Greengrocers	4	4	4	4
Stalls	4	4	4	4
Total	108	105	108	108

No. of such premises inspected during the year 105

No. of inspections carried out 374

(b) No. of food premises subject to registration under Section 16 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1955 in respect of:-

(i)	Ice Cream	30
(ii)	Sausages & Prepared Meats	2
(iii)	Fish and Chips	2

No. of samples of ice cream submitted for Methylene Blue Test 89

(c) The method in use for disposal of condemned food:

Buried at rubbish tip.

(d) Bye-laws in respect of handling and wrapping of food etc. are operated in the district.

#### Slaughterhouses

No. of licensed slaughterhouses in the district	2
No. of licensed knackers yards in the district	-

#### MEAT INSPECTION

(a) At Slaughterhouses

#### Carcases and Offal Inspected and Condemned

1970

	Cattle including Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	462	9	1379	685
Number Inspected	462	9	1379	685
All diseases except Tuberculosis and <u>Cysticerci</u> Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	137	1	104	157
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than tuberculosis and cystercerci	29.09%	11.11%	7.48%	22.92%
<u>Cysticercosis</u> Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	1	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-

There was no tuberculosis.



Meat Inspection (continued)

(b) At Butchers and other shops

Inspections made	19
Condemnations	95 lbs. of meat

Other Food

Particulars of quantities condemned or detained

175 lbs. condemned also 1411 packets of various foods -  
due to refrigeration failures.

POULTRY INSPECTION

There is no poultry processing premise within the Urban District.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS CARRIED OUT

Total No. of inspections (under all headings)	2994
Total No. of informal notices served	10
Total No. of informal notices complied with	10
Total No. of statutory notices served	4
Total No. of statutory notices complied with	4
No. of prosecutions	None





